

ALLRED — DAVIDHIZAR

AORN Journal

Index to Volume 47-48

January-December 1988

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From the SURGIKOS Art Collection. Artist Debbie Kuhn's interpretation of protecting patients from nosocomial infections. This original art was featured in ASEPSIS* The Infection Control Forum, Volume 2, Number 6, November-December, 1980.

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A black and white photograph of a winter scene. The foreground is a smooth, snow-covered slope. In the background, a dense forest of bare, dark trees stands against a light sky. The trees have intricate, bare branches. The overall mood is quiet and wintry.

Happy Holidays!

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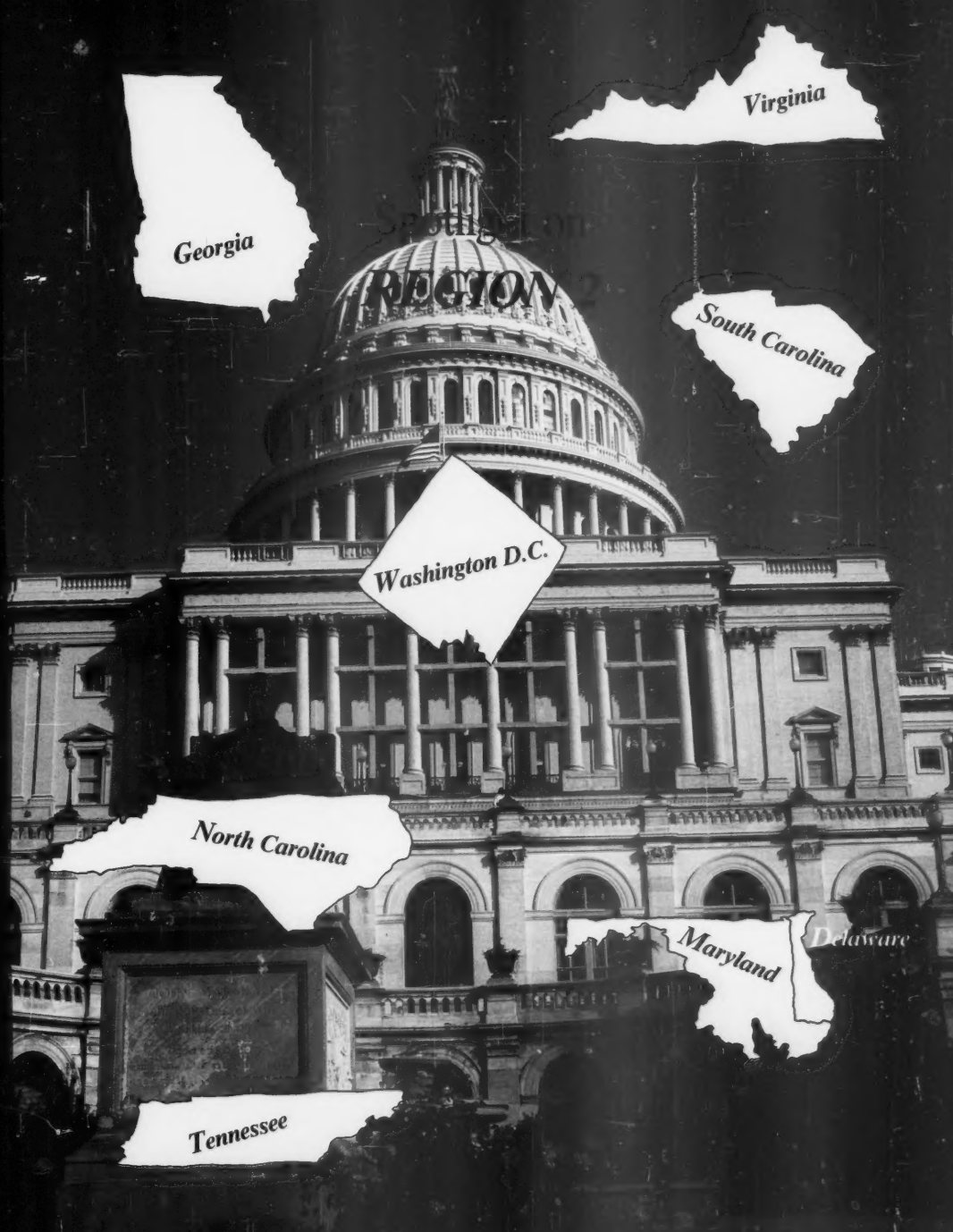
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Conjugated Flu Vaccine More Effective for Elderly

Binding the flu vaccine with the diphtheria toxoid increases the vaccine's effectiveness in the elderly, according to an article in the Aug 8, 1988, issue of *Medical World News*. People older than 65 are especially susceptible to influenza but about 50% of them cannot produce sufficient antibody responses to the vaccine.

Researchers at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Madison, Wis, studied 72 elderly people. The participants received either two intramuscular injections of vaccine four weeks apart or one injection of vaccine and one of placebo. The vaccine injections were either the usual trivalent flu vaccine or a vaccine conjugated with diphtheria toxoid.

After the second dose, 79% to 89% of the people who received the conjugated vaccine at the highest dose level had adequate antibody responses to three antigens in the vaccine. Of the group that received the standard vaccine, only 38% to 63% had adequate antibody responses.

